

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Amended) A fluorescent imaging device capable of imaging both of a white light and a fluorescent light, comprising:

a light source for endoscope use which selectively emits a plurality of lights inclusive of at least white light and fluorescent light;

5 an endoscope which comprises a light guide for guiding the lights emitted from said light source, for capturing an image obtained by emitting the light onto an object from said light guide;

an imaging camera having at least one white light imaging means and at least one fluorescent light imaging means each for imaging the image captured by said endoscope; and

10 an image producing means capable of producing a plurality of image signals from an electric signal which corresponds to the light selected among said plurality of lights and which is developed as an output from said imaging means;

B1 a selection means provided in either one of said light source, said image producing means and said endoscope for selecting a specific one among said plurality of lights;

15 a setting means for setting the specific light selected by said selection means; and

an initial setting means which selects said at least one white light imaging means prior to the setting by said setting means whereby said at least one fluorescent light imaging means is prevented from receiving light when said light source is turned on.

2. (Previously Amended) A fluorescent imaging device capable of imaging both of a white light and a fluorescent light, comprising:

a light source for endoscope use selectively which emits a plurality of lights inclusive of at least white light and fluorescent light;

5 an endoscope which comprises a light guide for guiding the lights emitted from said light source, operative to capture an image obtained by emitting the light onto an object from said light guide;

an imaging camera having at least one white light imaging device and one fluorescent light imaging device each responsive to the image captured by said endoscope; and

an image producing circuit capable of producing a plurality of image signals from an electric signal which corresponds to the light selected among said plurality of lights and which is developed as an output from said imaging camera:

a selection device provided in either one of said light source, said image producing circuit and said endoscope operative to select a specific one among said plurality of lights;

a setting device for setting the specific light selected by said selection device; and

an initial setting device for selecting said at least one white light imaging device prior to the setting by said setting device whereby said at least one fluorescent light imaging means is prevented from receiving light when said light source is turned on.

3. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus comprising:

a light source device capable of selectively irradiating an object with a first illumination light of a first type for conventional observation and a second illumination light of a second type different from the first type for special observation;

an endoscope having an imaging device for conventional observation which images an object by the first illumination light and an imaging device for special observation which images an object by the second illumination light;

an imaging prevention device which prevents imaging by the imaging device for special observation; and

a controller which controls the imaging prevention device so as to prevent imaging by the imaging device for special observation when the light source device is in a transitional state.

4. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the light source device is capable of being in a transitional state when the light source device is turned on.

5. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 3,

wherein the light source device is capable of being in a transitional state when the light source device is turned off.

6. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a power supply for a camera is in a transitional state when switched from the first illumination light to the second illumination light, and when switched from the second illumination light to the first illumination light.

7. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the imaging prevention device interrupts an optical path of the first illumination light in order to prevent the first illumination light from being incident on the imaging device for special observation.

8. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the imaging prevention device controls a power source for the imaging device for special observation.

9. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the imaging prevention device controls a sensitivity of the imaging device for special observation.

10. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus comprising:
a light source device that can selectively irradiate onto an object a first illumination light for conventional observation and a second illumination light for special observation;
an endoscope having a first mode for conventional observation by an imaging device for
5 conventional observation that images an object by the first illumination light and a second mode for special observation by an imaging device for special observation which images an object by the second illumination light;
an imaging prevention device which prevents imaging by the imaging device for special observation; and

10. a controller that controls the imaging prevention device so as to prevent imaging by the imaging device for special observation until the first mode for conventional observation is established when the light source device irradiates the first illumination light onto the object.

11. (Currently Amended) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the first mode for conventional observation is established when ~~the light source device~~ a power supply of the endoscope is turned on.

12. (Currently Amended) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the first mode for conventional observation is established when ~~the light source device~~ a power supply of the endoscope is turned off.

13. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the first mode for conventional observation is established when switching between the mode for conventional observation and the mode for special observation.

14. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the imaging prevention device interrupts an optical path of the first illumination light in order to prevent the first illumination light from being incident on the imaging device for special observation.

15. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the imaging prevention device controls a power source for the imaging device for special observation.

16. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the imaging prevention device controls a sensitivity of the imaging device for special observation.

17. (Previously Added) An endoscope apparatus comprising:

a light source device which can selectively irradiate onto an object a first illumination light for conventional observation and a second illumination light for special observation;
an endoscope having a first imaging device that images an object by the first illumination light and a second imaging device that images an object by the second illumination light;
5 an imaging prevention device which prevents imaging by the second imaging device;
a light detecting device which detects the second illumination light; and
a controller that controls the imaging prevention device to prevent imaging by the second imaging device based on the result of detection by the light detecting device.